

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 00465 141827Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-07  
IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EURE-00 /087 W  
-----141829Z 036909 /46

P R 141730Z FEB 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4038  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BERN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL ZURICH  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0465

E O 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, WB, GW, UK, SZ, FR, US, UR  
SUBJ: SOVIET COMPLAINT ABOUT PAA ZURICH FLIGHTS

SUMMARY: THE SOVIETS HAVE COMPLAINED ONCE AGAIN ABOUT  
PAA'S PROPOSAL TO ORIGINATE ZURICH FLIGHTS BEGINNING  
APRIL 1. POLAD REPEATED OUR REPLY TO LAST PROTEST ON  
THIS SUBJECT, I.E., THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO FLY OUR  
AIRCRAFT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREED PROCEDURES AND WE  
EXPECTED THE SOVIETS TO MEET THEIR OBLIGATION IN THIS  
AREA. END SUMMARY.

1. ON FEBRUARY 14 SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR KHOTULEV  
(ACCOMPANIED BY FIRST SECRETARY TYUTYUNOV) CALLED AT US  
MISSION TO DELIVER RETREADED COMPLAINT ABOUT PAA INTENTION  
TO ORIGINATE BERLIN-ZURICH FLIGHTS ON APRIL 1. THE  
RUSSIAN TEXT WAS LEFT BEHIND, AND WE WILL SEND FULL  
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TRANSLATION TOMORROW.

2. KHOTULEV'S MESSAGE STATED IT WAS NECESSARY TO REPEAT  
WHAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY HAS POINTED OUT MORE THAN ONCE,  
I.E., THAT THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS HAVE A SPECIAL  
REGIME AND ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE (CIVIL)  
COMPANIES TO TRANSPORT PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT. THE

ATTEMPT TO SET UP ZURICH FLIGHTS IS AN EVIDENT MISUSE OF THE AIR SPACE. THE SOVIET SIDE REPEATS WHAT IT SAID TO THE THREE POWERS IN ITS NOTE OF JUNE 24, 1974, I.E., THAT EFFORTS TO SET UP DIRECT FLIGHTS BETWEEN THE WSB AND OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE TO BE REGARDED AS A STEP DIRECTED AT UNILATERAL CHANGE IN THE SITUATION WHICH NOW OBTAINS IN THE AREA UNDER THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. SPECIAL ATTENTION OF THE THREE POWERS HAD TO BE DRAWN TO THE CIRCUMSTANCE THAT FLIGHTS ALONG THESE LINES WOULD HAVE AN ILLEGAL CHARACTER WITH ALL OF THE CONSEQUENCES ARISING THEREFROM. THE SOVIETS CONSIDER THAT ENOUGH POSSIBILITIES EXIST TO SATISFY THE TRANSPORTATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF WEST BERLIN WITHOUT RESORTING TO VIOLATIONS OF FOUR POWER UNDERSTANDINGS.

3. IN REPLY, POLAD AGREED THAT WE HAD BOTH EXPRESSED OUR VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT MANY TIMES. SINCE OUR DIFFERENT STANDPOINTS HAD BEEN SET FORTH AS RECENTLY AS LAST FALL, POLAD SAID HE WOULD SIMPLY REPEAT WHAT HE HAD TOLD KHOTULEV ON NOVEMBER 9. SPECIFICALLY, POLAD STATED: BEGIN TEXT: AS YOU REFERRED TO A 1974 STATEMENT, I WILL REPEAT THAT WE STAND BY THE THREE POWER STATEMENT TO YOU OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1974 ON A SIMILAR MATTER, THE LANGUAGE OF WHICH WE CONFIRM.

THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES WISH TO REPEAT THAT ALLIED AIRCRAFT WILL CONTINUE TO FLY IN THE BERLIN CONTROL ZONE AND THE AIR CORRIDORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH QUADRIPARTITELY AGREED RULES AND ESTABLISHED PRACTICES, AND THAT THEY EXPECT THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES TO CONTINUE TO FULFILL  
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THEIR OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH FLIGHTS.  
END TEXT.

4. POLAD SAID THERE WAS NO POINT IN HIS EXTEMPORIZING FURTHER SINCE HIS MESSAGE CONTAINED ALL THE NECESSARY ELEMENTS OF THE ALLIED POSITION.

5. KHOTULEV SAID HE WOULD ALSO REFRAIN FROM PERSONAL ELABORATIONS, BUT WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT NORMAL FLIGHTS, BUT A CHANGE IN PRACTICE, I.E., THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW COMMERCIAL ROUTES WHICH HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH ALLIED USAGE. HE NOTED THAT SUCH FLIGHTS WHEN MADE OCCASIONALLY (THAT IS, CHARTER FLIGHTS) ARE NOT GUARANTEED BY THE SOVIETS BECAUSE THEY ARE ABNORMAL AND VIOLATE USUAL PRACTICE.

6. POLAD SAID WE DID NOT CONSIDER SUCH AUTHORIZED FLIGHTS BY AIRCRAFT OF THE THREE POWERS ILLEGAL. WE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE SOVIET STATEMENT. GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**TAGS:** EAIR, PFOR, WB, GE, UK, SZ, FR, US, UR, PANAM  
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